

**TOWN OF WILSON'S MILLS
WORK SESSION MEETING
March 24, 2025**

PRESENT: Mayor Fleta Byrd, Mayor Pro-tem JC Triplett, Councilmembers David McGowan, Tim Brown, and Carolyn Dobbins.

OTHERS PRESENT: Town Administrator Leighanna Worley, Town Clerk Emily Matthews, Finance Officer Sherry Hudson, Public Works Director Patrick Moore, Planning Director Wendy Oldham, and Police Chief AZ Williams.

ABSENT: Councilmember Randy Jernigan

CONVOCATION: Mayor Byrd declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 5:01pm.

Departmental Reports Events Coordinator Emily Matthews gave updates on the Food Truck Rodeo. Mayor Byrd said she was pleased with the 7 trucks planning to come. Ms. Matthews said there will also be a rugby benefit game.

Councilmember Brown mentioned the percentage of drug seizure reimbursement and Finance Officer Hudson said she did a journal entry to correct that today. Councilmember Brown said the Planning Fees are over 100% and Ms. Hudson said that is a positive thing.

Planning Director Wendy Oldham gave updates on Miller's Ridge subdivision and said she recently got a preliminary plan and they are working on getting sewer allocation. She said the homes in Eason Creek are almost finished.

Councilmember McGowan asked for updates on the replacement of the fans under the shelter at the community park. Public Works Director Patrick Moore said the previous fans were more for indoor use, and they were not holding up. He said additional lights were also placed in the ceiling under the shelter. Mayor Byrd asked about keeping the sign up-to-date at the park and Mr. Moore said he and the new Administrative Specialist will be meeting this week to train him on how to update the sign.

Councilmember Brown asked about the felony charges listed in the Police Department report and asked why there were no arrests listed. Chief said he is not sure if the felony charges resulted in arrests but he will do further investigating into the matter. Councilmember McGowan asked about the car chase that occurred this past weekend and Chief said that would be addressed in next month's report.

Town Administrator Project Updates:

Ms. Worley said letters will go out to residents this week regarding changing their address to Wilson's Mills rather than Smithfield or Clayton.

Ms. Worley said she and Mr. Moore and Mrs. Oldham met with UNC Health Johnston about the fitness court today. She said they do not have any funds to give us to help with the fitness court but we did not add any possible funds from them into our budget. She said we turned in paperwork for the accessible parks grant and we should hear back in May if we received the funds. She said if we don't get the grant we will not be able to move forward with the fitness courts at the park.

Ms. Worley said the asbestos report was done this week in the Council Chambers.

Ms. Worley said a new Administrative Specialist and Events Coordinator has been hired and he will be focusing on updating the website, social media updates, and taking over events for the town.

Ms. Worley said she is working on the budget, and she spoke with other managers in the county today and they are talking about 12-15 percent increase in salaries in their Police Departments. She said she is adjusting our salary grades as well to get them to average.

Ms. Worley said in order to install streetlights on Swift Creek Road that would be federally or state funded the traffic count would need to be higher than what the current study shows. She said they are in the process of doing a new traffic study to check the traffic count. If the lights cannot be state or federally funded, she said we could pay a monthly fee to have the lights placed on Swift Creek Road.

Ms. Worley said the August Council meeting is scheduled for August 18th but suggested it be moved to August 11th due to Ms. Worley, Town Clerk Emily Matthews and Finance Officer Sherry Hudson all being at a conference for the North Carolina Association of Municipal Clerks.

A motion was made by Councilmember Tim Brown and seconded by Councilmember David McGowan to move the August 18, 2025 Council Meeting to August 11, 2025 at 6:30pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember McGowan said previous mayor Kenny Jones asked about past mayor photos being placed in town hall. Ms. Worley said they will be in the new chambers. Councilmember McGowan suggested a temporary place until the chambers is finished and Ms. Worley said she is unsure where they would be able to be placed in Town Hall. Mayor Byrd said she thinks we need to wait until the Chambers are ready.

ADJOURN:

A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem JC Triplett and seconded by Councilmember Tim Brown to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 5:41pm.




FLETA A. BYRD, Mayor


EMILY MATTHEWS, CMC
Town Clerk